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September 15, 2004

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02110

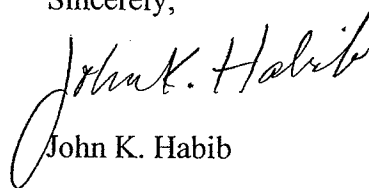
RE: New England Gas Company, D.T.E. 04-6

Dear Secretary Cottrell:

On behalf of New England Gas Company (the "Company"), please find attached the Company's responses to Record Requests DTE-1 through 3, asked of the Company during the September 8, 2004 evidentiary hearing in the above-referenced proceeding.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,



John K. Habib

Enclosures

cc: Jody Stiefel, Hearing Officer
Peter Czekanski
Judith Laster, Assistant Attorney General

Record Request DTE 1-01

Please provide the forecast of the total firm Company sendout for the low case and high case scenarios using the transformed models.

Response

The requested low case and high case scenarios based on the transformed variables are provided as Attachment RR-DTE 1-1. These figures reflect the results of incorporating the Cochrane-Orcutt adjustment to the linear models to eliminate observed serial autocorrelation. The predicted sales from these models are further reduced for forecasted DSM program conservation effects in the same manner as the Company's filed forecast. The resulting forecasts are methodologically comparable to the base case forecast provided in response to Information Request DTE 4-1.

The Company has reviewed the forecast results attached herein as well as those provided in response to Information Request DTE 4-1 and finds these results to be deficient, due primarily to the large residuals observed in the last historic period. The Company's original filing addressed the serial autocorrelation problem with an empirical technique that resulted in a lower forecast than that incorporating the transformed models. Reliance on the purely statistical Cochrane-Orcutt transformation technique could result in a requirement for additional resources that the Company believes is unnecessary and that is beyond the level that was found adequate to serve the severe weather conditions observed this past winter.

**NEW ENGLAND GAS COMPANY
FALL RIVER / NORTH ATTLEBORO SERVICE AREAS
FORECASTED MONTHLY PLANNING LOAD NET OF CONSERVATION (Dt)**

MON-YEAR	AS FILED PLANNING LOAD NET OF CONSERVATION	BASE CASE PLANNING LOAD NET OF CONSERVATION TRANSFORMED	LOW CASE PLANNING LOAD NET OF CONSERVATION TRANSFORMED	HIGH CASE PLANNING LOAD NET OF CONSERVATION TRANSFORMED
Sep-03	229,829	225,665	224,806	226,540
Oct-03	387,583	381,588	379,898	383,493
Nov-03	714,578	714,596	710,834	719,090
Dec-03	1,031,432	1,036,902	1,030,774	1,044,402
Jan-04	1,167,813	1,187,091	1,162,967	1,214,817
Feb-04	1,045,446	1,063,956	1,042,017	1,089,183
Mar-04	921,392	939,736	920,770	961,495
Apr-04	576,445	587,427	575,954	600,523
May-04	348,940	353,755	347,733	360,516
Jun-04	244,959	246,471	243,509	249,661
Jul-04	192,276	194,069	191,979	196,279
Aug-04	233,836	233,646	231,904	235,396
Sep-04	217,909	218,438	216,558	220,362
Oct-04	367,933	369,058	364,506	374,057
Nov-04	684,604	692,825	681,627	705,515
Dec-04	992,235	1,007,629	988,640	1,029,411
Jan-05	1,171,364	1,194,397	1,144,302	1,249,080
Feb-05	1,049,081	1,070,425	1,024,879	1,120,149
Mar-05	925,580	945,004	905,578	987,999
Apr-05	578,618	590,352	566,430	616,378
May-05	349,500	354,790	342,088	368,506
Jun-05	244,488	246,190	239,772	252,998
Jul-05	191,647	193,415	188,834	198,241
Aug-05	232,782	232,624	228,688	236,686
Sep-05	216,801	217,469	213,133	221,982
Oct-05	366,962	368,502	358,503	379,193
Nov-05	684,797	693,729	669,945	719,507
Dec-05	994,209	1,010,622	970,728	1,054,104
Jan-06	1,181,571	1,206,823	1,130,642	1,289,331
Feb-06	1,058,389	1,081,774	1,012,523	1,156,786
Mar-06	933,417	954,693	894,680	1,019,660
Apr-06	583,102	596,054	559,551	635,525
May-06	351,512	357,504	337,955	378,564
Jun-06	245,127	247,159	237,095	257,905
Jul-06	192,091	193,981	186,749	201,680
Aug-06	232,809	232,815	226,480	239,489
Sep-06	216,926	217,831	210,830	225,244
Oct-06	368,081	370,224	354,556	387,023
Nov-06	688,945	698,994	662,416	738,464
Dec-06	1,002,210	1,020,295	959,356	1,086,245
Jan-07	1,185,371	1,212,407	1,111,904	1,321,503
Feb-07	1,061,865	1,086,907	995,555	1,186,081
Mar-07	936,164	958,956	879,737	1,044,934
Apr-07	584,431	598,395	550,136	650,746
May-07	351,736	358,318	332,346	386,450
Jun-07	244,743	247,044	233,530	261,622
Jul-07	191,760	193,733	183,981	204,242
Aug-07	232,113	232,243	223,613	241,491
Sep-07	216,246	217,345	207,798	227,612
Oct-07	367,653	370,306	349,283	393,031
Nov-07	689,841	700,790	652,224	753,419
Dec-07	1,004,991	1,024,403	943,807	1,111,862
Jan-08	1,188,851	1,217,641	1,092,717	1,354,125
Feb-08	1,065,044	1,091,720	978,178	1,215,779
Mar-08	938,678	962,963	864,438	1,070,610
Apr-08	585,648	600,806	540,500	666,280
May-08	351,953	359,111	326,610	394,622
Jun-08	244,415	246,971	229,893	265,613
Jul-08	191,484	193,526	181,157	207,032
Aug-08	231,505	234,596	223,466	246,712
Sep-08	215,640	230,747	218,103	244,534
Oct-08	367,259	398,704	371,343	428,553

Record Request DTE 1-02

Please provide the Adjusted R-squared of each of the transformed models.

Response

The adjusted R-squared for each of the transformed variables was previously included with the work papers filed in the responses to the Department's second set of information requests but were not labeled. The table below provides a simple tabular presentation of the requested information.

Regression Model	R-squared
Residential Regular Customers	84.4%
Residential Regular Usage (Dt/Cust)	91.7%
Residential Heating Customers	97.7%
Residential Heating Usage (Dt/Cust)	99.5%
C&I LLF Customers	83.7%
C&I LLF Incl Transp. Usage (Dt/Cust)	98.9%
C&I HLF Customers	87.1%
C&I HLF Incl Transp. Usage (Dt/Cust)	77.8%
Company Use	93.7%

Record Request DTE 1-03

Please provide the growth rates used by the Company to forecast firm transportation volumes for every year of the forecast period.

Response

The forecasted firm transportation rates, expressed as a percentage over (under) the prior year level, were:

Year	Growth Rate
2004-05	(0.8 %)
2005-06	(0.1 %)
2006-07	(0.2 %)
2007-08	(0.2 %)